

**Howard County Police Department
Office of Public Affairs
Daily Crime Bulletin
Friday, July 29, 2016**

Residential burglary

Ellicott City, 21042: 3100 block of Ramblewood Road, July 27, 4:30-9:00 p.m.

Unknown suspect(s) gained entry to the residence by forcing a basement door and stole cash and jewelry.

Ellicott City, 21043: 3200 block of West Spring Drive, July 26 10:00 p.m. to July 28 8:55 p.m.

A resident reported a door was found unlocked and laptop missing from the residence. There were no signs of forced entry.

Elkridge, 21075: 6200 block of Greenfield Road, July 28, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Unknown suspect(s) entered the unlocked garage and damaged a vehicle. Nothing was taken.

Mt. Airy, 21771: unit block of W. Watersville Road, July 28 8:15 a.m. – 6:17 p.m.

Unknown suspect(s) entered the residence and stole several items including prescription drugs. No signs of forced entry.

Vehicle theft

Columbia, 21045: 8400 block of Oak Bush Terrace, July 28, 10:31 p.m. – 11:16 p.m.

11 Black Ford Escape

CRIME ALERT: Elderly man scammed in distraction burglary

Police are warning the public about a distraction scam that recently occurred in Ellicott City. Four suspects rang the doorbell at the home of an 86-year-old man on Church Lane Road around 5 p.m., July 28. They asked the man if he needed work on his driveway and then lured him out of the house, where they expressed interest in buying the man's truck. It was later determined that while the victim was distracted, one of the suspects entered the house through an unlocked side door and stole jewelry and cash from the victim's bedroom.

The suspects were described as four Hispanic males in a white, 4-door Chevrolet truck. Police have no further descriptions of the suspects, their truck, or a tag number.

Police are warning residents NOT to fall victim to this type of scam. DO NOT let anyone uninvited into your home and DO NOT come out of your house for anyone who is offering to sell you anything, make home or landscaping repairs, or buy something from you. ALWAYS keep all doors locked around your home.

Anyone with information, or who thinks they may have had contact with these or other scammers, is urged to call police at 410-313-STOP or email HCPDcrimetips@howardcountymd.gov.

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